

PRLP 139

LONG PLAYING MICRO GROOVE  
NON BREAKABLE RECORD

# the **billy taylor** trio

**billy taylor** - piano

**earl may** - bass

**charlie smith** - drums

**little girl blue**

**lover**

**they can't take that away  
from me**

**all too soon**

**accent on youth**

**give me the simple life**



446 West 50th Street

New York, N. Y.

**PRLP 139**

# **BILLY TAYLOR TRIO**

In the past few years, the piano has become a potent medium of communication for modern jazz. It seems that the same people whose ears cannot be attuned to saxophones and trumpets will readily listen to, understand, and enjoy ideas of the same idiom when they hear them on a piano. The piano is serving the role of introductory educator today, and one of its most eloquent professors is Billy Taylor. Although he has been active in jazz circles for a number of years, Billy did not begin to command any public attention until he formed his present trio. This was a fortuitous move, because by this time his playing had arrived at the point where it stood out brilliantly in its new setting.

Billy possesses a fabulous technique which enables him to present his intricate passages as he wants to, and a touch with which he exacts rapturous sounds in his moments of tender caressing of the keyboard. His perfection is the relative one of the jazzman, one of articulate clarity and sensitive dynamics, which allows a wide breach necessary for the emotional content in his playing.

The trio itself is a cohesive unit which can create many moods. Their interpretations have a feeling original with the group itself. Taste is evident in

everything they do. Drummer Charlie Smith's excellent brushwork carries the spark of his ebullient personality while Bassist Earl May (a rare south-paw) contributes a swinging foundation and thoughtful solo work. Billy has a wonderful faculty for choosing tunes and we can be grateful for him for reviving and revivifying ACCENT ON YOUTH, ALL TOO SOON and LITTLE GIRL BLUE. It is on these ballads that Billy negotiates those delicate passages which Charlie Smith refers to as "mice" music. The first two tunes were cut at one date along with GIVE ME THE SIMPLE LIFE and THEY CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY FROM ME. LITTLE GIRL BLUE and the special arrangement of LOVER were recorded for LP at another sitting.

The trio's unity and rapport comes from many months of playing together at Le Downbeat Club in New York where they held forth for over a year.

In this album, I feel that the trio has duplicated many of the wonderfully relaxed moods that otherwise could have only been available to you in the early hours of the morning at a club.

—IRA GITLER

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**PRESTIGE**

PRESTIGE RECORDS Inc., 446 West 50th Street, N. Y. C.

**BILLY TAYLOR TRIO**

Billy Taylor, piano; Earl May, bass;  
Charlie Smith, drums.

PRLP 139 A

NON-BREAKABLE

Track No. 1 LITTLE GIRL BLUE

Track No. 2 LOVER

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PRLP 139 B

NON-BREAKABLE

Track No. 1 THEY CAN'T TAKE THAT  
AWAY FROM ME

Track No. 2 ALL TOO SOON

Track No. 3 ACCENT ON YOUTH

Track No. 4 GIVE ME THE  
SIMPLE LIFE

LONG PLAYING

MICROGROOVE